



National Park Service  
U.S. Department of the Interior

Guadalupe Mountains  
National Park

400 Pine Canyon  
Salt Flat, TX 79847

Superintendent's Compendium  
Of Designations, Closures, Permit  
Requirements and Other Restrictions  
Imposed Under Discretionary Authority.

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Approved:

 4/21/2016  
Eric J. Brunnemann, Superintendent

In accordance with regulations and the delegated authority provided in Title 36, Code of Federal Regulations ("36 CFR"), Chapter 1, Parts 1-7, authorized by Title 16 United States Code, Section 3, the following provisions apply to all lands and waters administered by the National Park Service, within the boundaries of Guadalupe Mountains National Park. Unless otherwise stated, these regulatory provisions apply in addition to the requirements contained in 36 CFR, Chapter 1, Parts 1-7.

Written determinations, which explain the reasoning behind the Superintendent's use of discretionary authority, as required by Section 1.5(c), appear in this document identified by italicized print.

**I. 36 CFR §1.5 – VISITING HOURS, PUBLIC USE LIMITS, CLOSURES, AND AREA DESIGNATIONS FOR SPECIFIC USE OR ACTIVITIES**

**(a)(1) The following visiting hours and public use limits are established for all or for the listed portions of the park, and the following closures are established for all or a portion of the park to all public use or to a certain use or activity:**

Visiting Hours:

- I. The normal operating hours for the park's Visitor Center/Headquarters located at Pine Springs are:
  - I. Hours: 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. (MST/MDT) daily.
  - II. The Visitor Center is closed on Christmas Day.
  - III. Hours are subject to change as posted. Hours may be changed during emergencies by the Superintendent.
- II. Hours for the McKittrick Canyon Contact Station, Frijole Ranch Museum and Dog Canyon Ranger Station are subject to staffing levels and will be posted or can be obtained by calling the park.
- III. Hours for the park administrative headquarters located at the Headquarters Visitor Center at Pine Springs are: 8:00 a.m. until 4:30 p.m. (MST/MDT) Monday - Friday, except Holidays.

Public Use Limits:

- IV. The following areas are restricted to visitor day-use only:
  - I. McKittrick Canyon from U.S. Highway 62/180 to the top of McKittrick Ridge and Wilderness Ridge.
    - Hours are: 8:00-4:30 MST daily in winter and 8:00-6:00 MDT daily in summer (hours change when time changes from standard to daylight savings).
  - II. North McKittrick Canyon within the park.
    - Hours are the same as McKittrick Canyon.
  - III. The seven-mile, 4-wheel drive road to Williams Ranch, including the Williams Ranch historical site.

- Hours are: 8:00a.m -30 minutes after sunset (Winter MST) 7:00a.m.-30 minutes after sunset (Summer MDT)

Numbers of vehicles are limited to either:

- A single group with no more than eight (8) vehicles all driven and parked together, or
- No more than four (4) vehicles at any given time by a combination of either a visitor(s) in a single vehicle or small group(s) in caravans of less than four (4) vehicles.

*The road to this area is primitive and narrow. Vehicle access is limited to ensure safe travel of vehicles, the protection of natural & cultural resources and the protection of the road corridor. Unrestricted vehicle use would result in vehicles having to pass each other on the narrow road which would result in the unintentional widening of the roadway which would damage the primitive road and degradation of natural & cultural resources. Additionally, parking at the Williams Ranch site is limited due to natural and cultural resources.*

*Like McKittrick Canyon, this area contains sensitive cultural & natural resources.*

*Unrestricted use of this area would result in unacceptable resource damage.*

*Of all of the management options considered, the "day-use only" has been chosen as the most cost-effective method.*

- IV. The parking lots at Williams Ranch, Frijole Ranch, McKittrick Canyon, and the Salt Basin Dunes, as well as the Pine Springs Visitor Center Parking Lot and Pinery Parking Lot are restricted to day-use only. Overnight parking is not allowed in these parking lots. McKittrick and the Pine Springs Visitor Center parking lots are day-use only, except with an overnight backpacking permit.
- V. The Salt Basin Dunes area on the park's west side is open for day-use only. The open hours are from 30 minutes prior to sunrise until 30 minutes after sunset. Camping is specifically prohibited.
- V. The following areas are designated as visitor corrals for use by visitors to keep their stock (saddle and pack animals) overnight in the park, including limits on number of stock each corral can accommodate. Use of the corrals is by permit only. All feed brought into the park for livestock must be certified weed free. Visitors may be required to provide proof of weed free certification. Livestock should be fed weed free feed for one week prior to arrival. This requirement will limit the spread of invasive plant species and protect sensitive endemic or rare vegetation.
  - I. Frijole Visitor Horse Corral with a capacity of 10 animals.
  - II. Dog Canyon Visitor Corral with a capacity of 10 animals.

*These corrals are designated with the accompanying use limits to provide a secure place with water for visitors who wish to stay overnight in the park with stock. The intent of this designation is to reduce the potential of pack animal/camper conflicts and eliminate sanitation problems.*

#### Closures:

- VI. The following areas are closed to stock (saddle and pack animal) use:
  - I. From the hitching racks below the summit of Guadalupe Peak to the summit of Guadalupe Peak.

This section of trail is not constructed to stock use standards; additionally, the summit of Guadalupe Peak is an extremely small area. Permitting stock on the trail or summit would be hazardous to the pack animal, its handler/rider and other park visitors.

II. The "hiker's only" section of Guadalupe Peak Trail.

*This section of trail is constructed for foot traffic only. Use of stock on this trail would result in damage to the trail and potential conflicts between hikers and stock.*

III. The primitive trail to Devil's Hall.

*This trail follows the wash of Pine Spring Canyon. Due to large boulders, washouts, etc., it is not suitable for use by stock.*

IV. Smith and Manzanita Springs Loop Trail.

*This trail is constructed for and restricted to hiker travel only. The Smith Springs are fragile and bounded by a narrow pathway. Stock use would damage the trail and the resource.*

V. Bear Canyon Trail from its junction with Frijole Trail near the bottom of Bear Canyon to the ridge crest at the top of Bear Canyon.

*This trail is extremely steep. Stock use is impractical and would be hazardous to the animal and its handler. Note: The Bowl Trail at the top of Bear Canyon is also closed to stock use.*

VI. Hunter Peak Spur Trail.

*The summit of Hunter Peak is rugged and small; not suitable for use by stock. Additionally, the spur passes through critical habitat for the McKittrick Pennyroyal (*Hedeoma apiculatum*). These plants grow near the trail tread and are easily subject to disturbance from trampling, grazing, etc. Note: The Bowl Trail in which Hunter Peak Spur Trail connects is also closed to stock use.*

VII. All trails in the Bowl area. This includes the Bowl and Juniper Trails.

*The Bowl Trails traverse fragile, easily erodible soils. Stock animals are excluded to prevent erosion and protect sensitive vegetation.*

VIII. McKittrick Canyon Trail from McKittrick Canyon Contact Station to the hitching racks near McKittrick Ridge Campsite, including the short spur to Hunter Line Cabin and the McKittrick Interpretive Trail (also known as the McKittrick Nature Loop).

*Stock animals are excluded to protect the sensitive, fragile nature of McKittrick Canyon and its vegetative and aquatic environments. In addition, it is closed to stock to protect sensitive paleontological resources.*

IX. Permian Reef Geology Trail from the McKittrick Canyon Contact Station to its terminus at the park boundary on Wilderness Ridge.

*This trail is constructed only to foot use standards. It is primarily an interpretive trail. Stock use would be detrimental to the trail and would conflict with its intended use. In addition, it is closed to stock to protect sensitive paleontological resources.*

X. North McKittrick Canyon Primitive Trail in its entirety.

*This trail follows the wash of North McKittrick Canyon. As with the Devil's Hall Trail, it is unsuited for use by horse/pack animals. Also, the only access is along the McKittrick Canyon Trail which is closed to stock use.*

- XI. All spur trails leading from main trails to the backcountry campgrounds, except for administrative use.

- XII. Overnight use of stock animals is prohibited.

*The intent of this restriction is to keep animals away from designated camping areas in order to prevent sanitation problems and/or damage to campsites and surrounding areas.*

- XIII. Bush Mountain Trail from Bush Mountain to the Marcus Trail Junction, Blue Ridge Trail between the Marcus and Bush Mountain Trails.

*These trails were constructed for foot travel only. Sections of these trails are extremely steep and thus are impractical for stock animal use and would be hazardous to the animal and its handler. Additionally, these trails traverse fragile, easily erodible soils and fragile ecosystems with endemic vegetation. Stock animals are excluded to prevent erosion and protect sensitive vegetation.*

- XIV. Pine Springs and Dog Canyon Campgrounds, except for administrative use.

*The intent of this restriction is to reduce the potential of stock animal/camper accidents and conflicts; and to eliminate sanitation problems. Corrals are provided for stock use on the Frijole Ranch Road and at Dog Canyon. Administrative use of stock in the campgrounds is permitted to facilitate horse patrol, work projects and emergencies.*

- XV. The Pinery Trail.

*To prevent damage to this paved interpretive trail. The trail is intended for foot travel only.*

- XVI. The Indian Meadows Interpretive Trail at Dog Canyon.

*Stock use is prohibited to prevent damage to this interpretive trail. The trail is intended for foot travel only.*

- XVII. The entire Salt Basin Dunes area.

*Stock use is prohibited in order to allow the area to recover from intensive rancher use, which included very heavy cattle grazing. Administrative stock use may occur to facilitate patrol, work projects, and emergencies.*

- XVIII. All trails are subject to temporary closure to stock animals following rainfall and/or snowfall, or related incidents such as rockslides and mudslides.

*To prevent damage to trails when heavy rains and/or snow have fallen, or following a fire, or any other landscape altering event in the area, trails may be closed to stock animals by a senior ranger on duty or chief ranger with later concurrence of the superintendent. In addition, this may be done to provide for increased safety during related events such as rockslides and mudslides.*

- XIX. Parties using stock animals are limited to ten (10) such animals per group and to one group per trail at any point in time.

*Party size is limited to prevent hiker/stock use conflicts caused by long strings of stock animals. Parties of over 10 animals may be broken into separate groups and go on different trails and to different locations. Trails do not provide for parties of stock meeting each other and cannot accommodate more than one party at a time.*

- XX. The entire backcountry is closed to the overnight use of stock animals.

*Overnight use of stock animals in designated camping areas would result in conflicts between stock users and other backpackers. Backcountry campsites are not designed to accommodate stock. Additionally, the park contains an unusually high percentage of significant vegetation, many of which would be damaged by grazing or penning of stock animals. None of the campsites have natural water supplies, making it difficult to over-night animals. Resource damage in the backcountry (and wilderness zone) would be unacceptable if overnight use of stock animals were permitted.*

- XXI. Administrative use of park stock (saddle and pack animals) on trails and in areas normally closed to stock may be approved by the Superintendent when justified and approved in writing.

- XXII. Administrative use of park stock on closed trails is occasionally needed to accomplish certain tasks, and during emergencies. All emergency use, such as the rescue of a person, will be fully documented immediately following the incident. All administrative use will be considered by the Superintendent on a case-by-case basis. Such requests will be justified and requested in writing. Permission may be granted in writing if the use of stock is deemed to be necessary as the safest and least impacting method to accomplish the task.

- XXIII. Stock use (saddle and pack animals) is restricted to designated trails and designated roads (See Section 2.16). Off-trail use of stock animals is prohibited.

*The intent of this regulation is to limit the resource damage done by stock animals. Off-trail use would increase this damage and designated stock trails are designed to provide a route for stock animals that will limit resource damage.*

- VII. The following areas are closed (as Research Natural Areas) to all persons except by special Permit issued by the Superintendent:

- I. Upper South McKittrick Canyon, above Hunter Line Cabin.
- II. Devil's Den Canyon
- III. Middle fork of North McKittrick Canyon

*See rationale under Section 1.6 Permits, paragraph 6.*

- VIII. The entire Salt Basin Dunes/West side area is closed to motorized vehicles, except for the dirt access road to the parking lot.

- I. Motorized vehicles may be used for administrative purposes on existing roads with permission of the superintendent. This will facilitate patrol, work projects, and emergencies.



- II. Segways, motorized scooters, and similar devices as defined under 36 C.F.R. § 1A, are motor vehicles and as such are generally prohibited in parks.

Pursuant to 36 C.F.R. § 1.5(a), 4.10(a) the Park has imposed an interim restriction on the use of Segways, motorized scooters and similar devices, from all areas within the park including all park roads, trails, sidewalks and buildings.

However, any park visitor with a mobility disability is permitted to use Segways, motorized scooters and/or similar gyroscopic stabilized mobility devices within the park, including within structures and facilities, and on designated park roads, sidewalks, trails and other surfaces when such devices are used for the sole purpose of mobility assistance.

Segways and similar devices are permitted on all roads, sidewalks and trails designated for use by motorized wheelchairs, including all access to designated accessible facilities, such as accessible campground sites, the paved sidewalks at the Pine Springs Visitor Center and the McKittrick Contact Station, and the flagstone walk at Frijole Ranch to the Frijole Ranch Museum and on the designated accessible trails located: on the Smith Springs Trail to Manzanita Spring from Frijole Ranch and the Pinery Trail from the V.C. to the Pinery. Use is prohibited in the wilderness areas of the park and all non-designated trails.

Any use of any mobility assistive device, as outlined above, must also adhere to the following:

- No person under 16 years of age may operate a Segway or similar device.
- A person shall operate any mobility assistive device in a safe and responsible manner; adhere to the same expectations as pedestrians, staying in cadence with other pedestrians; maximum speed will not exceed more than 8 M.P.H. ("Segway sidewalk/Intermediate" key), so as not to endanger one's self or any other park visitor.
- Segways and other similar motorized devices are required to stay on-trail.
- A person riding any mobility assistive device upon and along a sidewalk or designated trail, while crossing a roadway in a crosswalk, or any other surface shall have all the rights and duties applicable to a pedestrian under the same circumstances, except that the mobility assistive device operator must always yield to pedestrians (park visitors).

*The intent of this regulation is to provide mobility impaired visitors who use mobility devices the same opportunities as those in motorized wheelchairs. Trails designated are those that are surfaced in some manner and thus able to accommodate these devices. Other trails in the park have stairs, ravines and otherwise uneven and narrow surfaces that would not accommodate these devices. Requirements to stay on-trail are necessary to reduce impact to natural and cultural resources*

- IX. Launching, landing, or operating an unmanned aircraft from or on lands and waters administered by the National Park Service within the boundaries of Guadalupe Mountains National Park is prohibited except as approved in writing by the NPS Associate Director, Visitor and Resource Protection.

The term "unmanned aircraft" means a device that is used or intended to be used for flight in the air without the possibility of direct human intervention from within or on the device, and the associated operational elements and components that are required for the pilot or system operator in command to operate or control the device (such as cameras, sensors, communication links). This term includes all types of devices that meet this definition (e.g.,

model airplanes, quadcopters, and drones) that are used for any purpose, including for recreation or commerce.

- X. Use of McKittrick Canyon between the Contact Station and Pratt Cabin is restricted to the trail, except by special permission of the Superintendent.
- XI. All entry into the water (perennial stream) for the entire length of McKittrick Canyon is prohibited, except the incidental encroachment where the trail crosses the stream, for taking of drinking water only where the trail crosses the stream, and except by permit associated with scientific research.

*McKittrick Canyon is a fragile, sensitive and unique ecosystem that is easily impacted by visitor use. The lower reaches of the canyon receive heavy visitation, especially during certain times of the year, such as fall colors. This restriction serves to ensure minimum adverse impact to the canyon, reduce damage to the riparian ecosystem, reduce damage to aquatic and streamside flora and fauna, reduce damage to travertine flowstone formations, reduce impact to canyon vegetation, reduce the development of social trails and other such unacceptable impacts. Special permission may be granted by the Superintendent to geology groups and others studying the Canyon. The drinking of the stream water is not recommended, nor encouraged, but drinking water can be taken only where the trail crosses the stream. This is intended to prevent damage to the fragile stream bed.*

- XII. All entry into water in springs and trampling of vegetation adjacent to springs is prohibited.

*There are few springs found within the park. Springs found in the park are fragile riparian areas which require protection from excessive use. Visitors should not drink the water from springs. Vegetation found adjacent to springs is quite frequently rare and found only in that limited area. These fragile areas cannot withstand heavy impacts.*

## **II. 36 CFR §1.6 – ACTIVITIES THAT REQUIRE A PERMIT**

**(f) The following is a compilation of those activities for which a permit from the superintendent is required:**

- §1.5(d) The following activities related to Public Use Limits:

- I. Salt Basin Dunes Vehicle Entry Permit (36 CFR 1.5 and 36 CFR 2.5).

Only six (6) vehicles or no more than 30 visitors will be issued a permit in a day. Vehicles will be limited to passenger vehicles 21 feet or shorter, which includes 15 passenger vans. A permit developed for this purpose will be used.

Walk-ins will not be required to receive a permit. Permits will not be issued on days when the road is too wet to allow for use without significant damage to the road. Permits will provide for public safety; allow the park to monitor use levels; and to control the amount of use in these significant, non-renewable resources.

- II. Cave Entry Permit (36 CFR 7.93)

Permits are required to provide for public safety; to monitor cave use levels; and to control the amount of use in these significant, non-renewable resources.

- III. Permit for entry into the restricted areas of Upper South McKittrick Canyon, Devil's Den Canyon and the Middle Fork of North McKittrick Canyon (36 CFR 1.5 and 36 CFR 2.5).

*The above listed areas are of unique natural science interest, and nominated for designation as Research Natural Areas. They are being managed so as to incur minimum human impact and influence; and as natural outdoor laboratories. Only persons having valid, approved scientific research permits are permitted entry. Additionally, all three areas are extremely rugged and present safety hazards to even the most experienced hikers.*

- IV. Permit for possession and/or consumption of Alcoholic Beverages in the park's public buildings (36 CFR 2.35).

*See rationale under Section 2.35.*

- §2.4(d) Carry or possess a weapon, trap, or net
- §2.5(a) Specimen collection (Take plant, fish, wildlife, rocks or minerals)

- I. Specimen Collection Permit (36 CFR 2.5)

*Permits are required to monitor, manage and control scientific collection of park resources.*

- §2.10(a) The following camping activities:
  - I. Backcountry Use Permit for all overnight camping in the backcountry (36 CFR 2.10)

*Permits are required in order to provide for public safety and to monitor backcountry use levels.*

- II. Camping Permits for camping at the Pine Springs and Dog Canyon Campgrounds and the Frijole and Dog Canyon Visitor Corrals (36 CFR 2.10). A fee is charged at each site.

*Permits are required in order to provide for public safety; to monitor camping use levels; and to provide for accountability of government funds when fees are collected.*

- §2.12 Audio Disturbances:
  - I. (a)(2) Operating a chain saw in developed areas
  - II. (a)(3) Operation of any type of portable motor or engine, or device powered by a portable motor or engine in non-developed areas
  - III. (a)(4) Operation of a public address system in connection with a public gathering or special event for which a permit has been issued pursuant to §2.50 or §2.51

- §2.17 Aircraft & Air Delivery:



- I. (a)(3) Delivery or retrieval of a person or object by parachute, helicopter or other airborne means
  - II. (c)(1) Removal of a downed aircraft
- §2.23(b) The following special recreation activities (per 36 CFR Part 71):
  - I. Permit to technical rock climb, either with or without technical aids.

In order to monitor use, impact to natural, cultural and mineral resources and to better coordinate rescue efforts should the need arise. The following items will be considered when issuing permits

  - Technical rock climbing is defined as ascending or descending a rock formation utilizing rock climbing equipment.
  - The rock at Guadalupe Mountains National Park is comprised predominately of limestone which is soft and crumbly.
  - Technical climbing areas are located within designated wilderness.
  - The use of motorized equipment including power drills is prohibited under the Wilderness Act.
  - Fixed anchors and fixed equipment are prohibited.
  - Rock climbing, ascending, descending, or traversing an archeological site, cultural resource, or paleontological site is prohibited.
  - The physical altering of rock faces such as by chiseling, glue reinforcement, and chalking, is prohibited.
  - The intentional removal of paleontological materials, lichen or plants is prohibited.
  - No "software" (slings, runner, webbing, ropes, etc.) will be left in place.

Guadalupe Mountains National Park is a clean climbing park, promoting climbing techniques that do not destroy the rock or leave visual trails.

- §2.37 Soliciting or demanding gifts, money goods or services (Pursuant to the terms and conditions of a permit issued under §2.50, §2.51 or §2.52)
- §2.38 Explosives:
  - I. Use, possess, store, transport explosives, blasting agents
  - II. Use or possess fireworks
- §2.50(a) Conduct a sports event, pageant, regatta, public spectator attraction, entertainment, ceremony, and similar events
  - I. Permit for a Special Event (36 CFR 2.50).

*In order to determine the appropriateness of special events and to manage these events in relation to other park activities, a permit is required.*

- §2.51(a) Public assemblies, meetings, gatherings, demonstrations, parades and other public expressions of views
  - I. The following locations are designated as locations that are available for public assemblies, provided a Permit has been obtained in accordance with 36 CFR 2.51 :
    - The Pine Springs Campground Amphitheater.
    - In Dog Canyon, the area of the drilling pad near the Well House (this would be the area between the Well House and the trailhead sign).

*These areas are designated by the Superintendent as locations available for public assembly that would not cause injury or damage to park resources, not impair the atmosphere of peace and tranquility in the natural setting, interfere with administration of the park, impair public services, or present a public health or safety concern*

- §2.52(c) Sale or distribution of printed matter that is not solely commercial advertising
  - I. The following locations are designated as locations available for the sale or distribution of printed matter, provided a permit has been obtained in accordance with 36 CFR 2.52:
    - An area adjacent to the parking lot at the Headquarters/Visitor Center at Pine Springs, located between the picnic area and the bridge to the Visitor Center. Restricted to an area that is a distance of 100' from the bridge and 100' from the picnic area. Use is restricted to the area adjacent to the lot and must not intrude upon the parking lot or obstruct traffic.
    - In Dog Canyon, an area adjacent to the Dog Canyon Ranger Station, located to the left of the entrance walk (south) as you approach the Ranger Station. Restricted to an area adjacent to the walk, but not on the walkway itself or on the porch to the building.

*These areas are designated by the Superintendent as locations available for sale or distribution of printed matter that would not cause injury or damage to park resources, not impair the atmosphere of peace and tranquility in the natural setting, interfere with administration of the park, impair public services or present a public health or safety concern.*

- §2.60(b) Livestock use.
- §2.61(a) Residing on federal lands.
- §2.62 Memorialization:
  - I. (a) Erection of monuments (Requires approval from Regional Director)
  - II. (b) Scattering ashes from human cremation
- §4.11(a) Exceeding of established vehicle load, weight and size limits.
- §5.1 Advertisements- (display, posting or distribution.)

- §5.3 Engaging in or soliciting business (requires a permit, contract or other written agreement with the United States or must be pursuant to special regulations).
- §5.4(a) Commercial transportation of passengers by motor vehicles.
- §5.5 Commercial Photography/Filming:
  - I. (a) Commercial filming of motion pictures or television involving the use of professional casts, settings or crews, other than bona fide newsreel or news television
  - II. (b) Still photography of vehicles, or other articles of commerce or models for the purpose of commercial advertising. This does not include school related graduation photographs or armed forces re-enlistment photographs.
- §5.6(c) Use of commercial vehicles on park area roads (The superintendent shall issue a permit to access private lands within or adjacent to the park when access is otherwise not available.
- §5.7 Construction of buildings, facilities, trails, boat docks, paths, structures, etc.
- §5.10(a) Operation of eating, drinking, or lodging establishments in certain park areas.
- §6.9(a) Operation of a solid waste disposal site

### III. GENERAL REGULATIONS

#### 36 CFR §2.1 – PRESERVATION OF NATURAL, CULTURAL AND ARCHEOLOGICAL RESOURCES

**(b) Hiking or pedestrian traffic is restricted to the trail or walkway as listed in Section 1.5 of this document.**

**(c)(1), (c)(2) The following fruits, nuts, berries or unoccupied seashells may be gathered by hand for personal use or consumption, in accordance with the noted size, quantity, collection sites and/or use or consumption restrictions:**

- I. Fruits of cactus, such as prickly pear cactus, and fruit trees, in small quantities for personal consumption only.
- II. Nuts, such as pecans, acorns, and pinons, when collected from the ground only and in small quantities for personal consumption only.
- III. Berries of all edible plants when collected in small quantities for personal consumption while in the park only.
- IV. All collecting of these natural products will be restricted to the lower elevations of the park, on both the east and west sides of the park (below 6,000 feet in elevation) and in the Dog Canyon developed area.
- V. No collection of any natural products will be permitted in McKittrick Canyon.

*These restrictions are designed to protect the park's resources and minimize the impact on the park ecosystem of any collecting of natural products for consumption.*

### **36 CFR §2.2 - WILDLIFE PROTECTION**

**(d) The transporting of lawfully taken wildlife through the park is permitted under the following conditions and procedures:**

- I. Wildlife lawfully taken outside the park, and in compliance with appropriate State laws, may be transported through the park only along the corridor of U.S. Highway 62/180; provided that such game is lawfully tagged, and that the route is the shortest means of access to state and/or private lands, and that weapons are carried in compliance with 36 CFR 2.4.

*U.S. Highway 62/180 is a major public highway through the eastern portion of Guadalupe Mountains National Park. As a public thoroughfare, and with precedent having been set prior to the park being established, transportation of game and weapons, as stated above, is permitted.*

**(e) The following areas are closed to the viewing of wildlife with the use of an artificial light:**

- I. Viewing of wildlife with any type of artificial light is prohibited throughout the park.

### **36 CFR §2.3 – FISHING**

**(a) The following State fishing laws and/or regulations, as noted, do not apply in the listed areas:**

- I. All waters within the park are closed to fishing.

*All bodies of water are of scientific value and interest, as are any fish populations within them. Accordingly, fishing is not an appropriate activity. Additionally, stream side vegetation is unique in most of these areas, containing endemic, endangered and other significant plants. Trampling of such vegetation as a result of fishing activity would result in unacceptable resource damage.*

### **36 CFR §2.4 – WEAPONS, TRAPS, AND NETS**

**(a)(2)(i) Weapons, traps, or nets may only be carried, possessed or used at the following designated times and locations:**

- I. U.S. Highway 62/180 and associated pull-outs and adjacent parking areas.

*The above named roadway is an established, traditional route through the park. U.S. Highway 62/180 is a main public thoroughfare and is a primary transportation road. The associated pull-outs and adjacent parking areas in the park (i.e. the Visitor Center Parking Lot) are part of this transportation route. See Explanation for Section 2.2 Wildlife Protection*

### **36 CFR §2.10 – CAMPING and FOOD STORAGE**

**(a) The sites and areas listed below have been designated for camping activities as noted. A permit system has been established for certain campgrounds or camping activities, and conditions for camping and camping activities are in effect as noted:**

- I. All camping and permits are on a first-come, first-serve basis, except the group campsites, in which reservations are accepted.

- II. The group campsites at Pine Springs and Dog Canyon can be reserved up to 60 days in advance of the visit. A non-refundable deposit fee may be charged.
- III. Camping is permitted in designated campsites only, except within the open backcountry camping zone (depicted on a map in the Backcountry Management Plan).

This restriction permits camping while minimizing impacts to natural and cultural resources.
- IV. Camping is limited to fourteen (14) consecutive days and a total of fourteen (14) days per each three month period.

*This restriction is to ensure that all visitors to the park have the opportunity to utilize park campgrounds. It prevents "homesteading" of campsites by any individual or group.*
- V. Frontcountry campsite occupancy is limited to a site capacity of 6 persons per site with all camping activity restricted to the developed campsite.
- VI. Backcountry campsite occupancy is limited to four (4) persons per site and two (2), 2-person tents or one (1) 4-person tent.

*Campsite construction precludes higher occupancy rate and/or larger tent sizes. To allow more than the specified limit would result in overflow and unacceptable resource damage.*
- VII. Groups using the backcountry campgrounds will be limited to 12 individuals and must divide the group to meet the backcountry site occupancy limitations as described above.

*This restriction is required to minimize impact on the backcountry campgrounds, reduce social trails, and insure that all visitors have the opportunity to utilize these sites.*
- VIII. Groups must stay in designated group sites at the Pine Springs and Dog Canyon Campgrounds. A user fee is charged.

*These sites are the only ones designed to accommodate larger numbers of people. Their use minimizes erosion, impacts on the resources adjacent to the campsite and conflict with family and individual campers.*
- IX. Frontcountry campground group site occupancy is limited to a maximum of 20 persons per site unless a larger group size is authorized by the Superintendent, Chief Ranger or their acting.
- X. Camping is authorized for overnight horse users only at the visitor horse corrals, with a Permit. The visitor horse corral and campsite can be reserved up to 60 days in advance of the visit. A user fee is charged.
- XI. This provides for security of visitor stock and facilitates their use of the visitor horse corrals.
- XII. At all park campgrounds, where tent pads are provided, all tents must be erected on the tent pads.
- XIII. Recreational vehicle camping is not allowed in the tent camping areas.



*The park's tent camping areas cannot accommodate RV's considering the narrow dirt access road at Pine Springs and the lack of RV parking space at the tent area at Dog Canyon.*

- XIV. Camping is allowed by permit within the open backcountry camping zone located in the high country and the west side camping sites, as depicted on maps in the Backcountry Management Plan.

- XV. Quiet hours in all of the park's campgrounds are from 8:00 p.m. to 8:00 a.m.

*These quiet hours will help to eliminate the disturbing effects of unreasonable noise during the time when some people may want to enjoy the solitude and tranquility of the national park. Petroleum fueled electric generator use is included as unreasonable noise during the quiet hours.*

**(d) Conditions for the storage of food are in effect, as noted, for the following areas:**

- I. Food must be stored in such a manner that it is not readily accessible to wildlife, as stated in 36 CFR 2.10 (d).

*This restriction should minimize the potential conflict between park users and park wildlife. It will forestall wildlife dependency on artificial food sources. It should greatly reduce the potential for injury and/or property damage due to intrusion of wildlife into campsites in search of food. And, it should prevent the need to remove, destroy, or otherwise artificially manipulate park wildlife as a result of inappropriate wildlife/visitor interaction.*

**36 CFR §2.11 – PICNICKING**

**Conditions for Picnicking:**

- I. Glass containers are prohibited within the Salt Basin Dunes area.

*This prohibition is to prevent personal injuries due to broken glass. This is potentially a serious problem on the actual sand dunes, where the glass is easily concealed in the sand.*

**36 CFR 2.13 – FIRES**

**(a)(1) The lighting or maintaining of fires is generally prohibited, except as provided for in the following designated areas and/or receptacles, and under the conditions noted:**

**Designated Areas:**

- I. No open fires (this includes charcoal) are permitted anywhere in the park.  
II. All fires, including all types of cooking devices, are prohibited within the Salt Basin Dunes area.

**(a)(2) The following restrictions are in effect for the use of stoves or lanterns:**

- I. Fires are permitted only in stoves using containerized fuels. This includes such stoves as Coleman, propane and gas grills with volcanic or ceramic briquettes

**36 CFR §2.14 – SANITATION and REFUSE**

**(b) Conditions for the disposal, containerization, or carryout of human body waste have been established as follows:**

- I. In backcountry areas, human body waste will be disposed of by burying the waste at least one hundred (100) feet from established trails, campsites or water sources; except,

developed toilet facilities will be used where available. The use of waste agglutinating gel (WAG) bags is recommended for containing and packing out human waste. Use of WAG bags may be required by the Superintendent at certain times or locations to reduce the impacts associated with burying human waste.

*This restriction provides for adequate sanitation in the backcountry.*

- II. Gray water is to be disposed of only in the comfort station toilet or a sink designated and signed for this activity. Dumping of gray water in any other location or manner is strictly prohibited.

### **36 CFR §2.15 – PETS**

**(a)(1) The following structures and/or areas are closed to the possession of pets:**

- I. Pets (except service dogs) are prohibited in park buildings, restrooms, or at any public programs.
- II. Pets are prohibited in the backcountry, public developed areas, and on all park trails except the trail from the Pine Springs Campground to the Visitor Center and the Pinery Trail.

**(a)(3) Pets may be left unattended and tied to an object in the following areas, under the conditions noted:**

- I. Pets may not be left unattended and tied to an object in the park
- II. Pets may not be left unattended in a vehicle for prolonged periods of time. Persons may be charged under Texas Health and Safety Code 42.09(2) which prohibits a person from being intentionally, knowingly or recklessly cruel to an animal.

**(a)(5) Pet excrement must be disposed of in accordance with the following conditions:**

- I. All pet excrement must be picked up if deposited within designated campsites, paved or unpaved roads, or on trails, and removed to a toilet or trash container. Excrement cannot be simply thrown or placed in a different location.

**(e) Pets may be kept by park residents under the following conditions:**

- I. Permanent park residents are allowed to keep pets in accordance with the park Housing Management Plan.

*Permanent park residents are permitted to keep three pets by permission of the Superintendent, providing said animals do not run at large, that owners comply with State law and park pet policy regulating pets and pet health and that said pets do not become a public nuisance.*

### **36 CFR §2.16 – HORSES and PACK ANIMALS**

**(a) The following animals are designated as pack animals for purposes of transporting equipment:**

- I. Only horses, mules, burros, and llamas (alpacas) are designated as stock animals.

*At the Superintendent's discretion only the above listed animals are permitted in the backcountry. These animals (llamas excepted) were a part of the park's ranching history, and as such their utilization in packing/riding on established trails is in keeping with past established practices.*

**(b) The use of horses or pack animals is allowed on the following trails, routes or areas:**

- I. Trails designated for stock use are as follows:
  - El Capitan Trail
  - Salt Basin Overlook Trail

- Foothills Trail
  - Frijole Trail
  - Guadalupe Peak Horse Trail to the hitching racks below the summit
  - Tejas Trail
  - Bush Mountain Trail from Tejas Junction at Pine Top to hitching racks at Bush Mountain
  - Bush Mountain Trail from Dog Canyon to Marcus Junction
  - Marcus Trail
  - Blue Ridge Trail from Marcus Junction to Tejas Trail
  - McKittrick Canyon Trail from Tejas Trail to McKittrick Ridge Camp hitching racks
  - Cork Canyon Road.
- II. Roads designated for stock use are as follows:
- Williams Ranch Road
  - Dog Canyon Road
  - Designated old roads in the west side escarpment area. Note that not all the old roads within the park are open for stock use.

*These roads are open to stock use to allow access to designated trails and because there are no alternative trails or routes.*

**(g) Other conditions concerning the use of horses or pack animals:**

- I. Stock animals are prohibited on trails and areas designated in Section 1.5 Closure and Public Use Limits.
- II. See Explanation in Section 1.5 of this Compendium.  
  
The overnight use or the overnight keeping of stock animals in the backcountry is prohibited. Such animals may be kept overnight in the park only at the visitor corrals at Frijole and Dog Canyon.  
  
*See Explanation in Section 1.5 of this Compendium.*
- III. A backcountry permit is required for all use of stock animals.  
  
*See Explanation in Section 1.6 of this Compendium.*
- IV. Parties using stock animals are limited to ten (10) such animals per group and to one group per trail at any point in time.  
  
*See Explanation in Section 1.5 of this Compendium.*
- V. Stock excrement must be picked up if deposited in the immediate vicinity of the visitor corrals at Frijole and Dog Canyon and then either placed in a trash container or removed from the park. Corrals must be cleaned of manure after each use of the corral.
- VI. All feed brought into the park for stock animals must be certified "weed free."

*Visitors may be required to provide proof of weed free certification. Livestock should be fed weed free feed for one week prior to arrival in the park. This requirement will limit the spread of invasive plant species and protect sensitive endemic or rare vegetation.*

### **36 CFR §2.20 – SKATING, SKATEBOARDS and SIMILAR DEVICES**

**The use of roller-skates, skateboards, roller skis, coasting vehicles, or similar devices are allowed only in the following areas:**

- I. The use of roller skates, skateboards, roller skis, costing vehicles or similar devices are allowed only by residents and their guests within the park housing area.
- II. Sliding type devices are prohibited within the Salt Basin Dunes area.

*Note: This CFR section prohibits devices that are similar to skates, skateboards, roller skis, and coasting vehicles. The superintendent has determined that this also includes devices used to slide on sand dunes.*

### **36 CFR §2.21 – SMOKING**

**(a) The following portions of the park, or all or portions of buildings, structures or facilities are closed to smoking as noted:**

- I. Smoking and vaping within caves, at all public programs, and in all park buildings is prohibited as outlined in the Superintendent's Directive 82-12.

*Smoking within caves has been determined to be a health hazard. Additionally, smoke and vaporized particles collect on and damage cave resources. Certain public use areas and work areas have been set aside to protect individual rights. Certain areas have been designated as "No Smoking" areas due to hazards of fires and explosion. These areas are marked with "No Smoking" signs and receptacles are provided for depositing smoking materials at entrances.*

- II. Smoking is subject to temporary restrictions during periods of high to extreme fire danger.

*During periods of high or extreme fire danger trails and all areas of the park may be closed to smoking by the Superintendent as a fire prevention measure for public health and safety and to prevent forest fires.*

### **36 CFR §2.22 – PROPERTY**

**(a)(2) Property may be left unattended for periods longer than 24 hours in the following areas and under the following conditions:**

- I. Visitors on authorized backcountry trips may leave vehicles unattended at designated trailheads for the period specified in their backcountry permits, and as authorized by the permit. A copy of the Permit must be visible within the parked vehicle.

Backcountry travel by visitors often exceeds the 24-hour period specified in 36 CFR 2.22 (a) (2). Therefore, in order to accommodate hikers and other trail users, vehicles may be left unattended for the duration specified in the backcountry permit. A copy of the backcountry permit, when left visible in the vehicle, serves as a vehicle Permit for the vehicle to be left overnight.

- Trailheads designated for overnight parking are as follows:
- Pine Springs Trailhead (located near the RV Campground).
- Dog Canyon Trailhead.
- McKittrick Canyon Trailhead.
- Pine Springs Visitor Center will be used for overflow parking when the trailhead parking is full.
- All other trailheads in the park are for day use parking only.
- Personal property may not be left unattended at campsites for more than 24 hours.

*This restriction ensures that campsites are occupied and paid for by legitimate users. It ensures that campsites remain available to all users on a first-come/first-served basis. It forestalls the "holding" of campsites when not actually occupied and ensures payment of user fees for such sites.*

### **36 CFR §2.23 – RECREATION FEES**

**(b) Recreation fees, and/or a permit, in accordance with 36 CFR part 71, are established for the following entrance fee areas, and/or for the use of the following specialized sites, facilities, equipment or services, or for participation in the following group activity, recreation events or specialized recreation uses:**

#### **Entrance Fee Areas:**

- I. An entrance fee of five (5) dollars per person above the age of 12 is required, unless that person or persons present a valid pass, or fee waiver.

### **36 CFR §2.35 –ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES and CONTROLLED SUBSTANCES**

**(a)(3)(i) The following public use areas, portions of public use areas, and/or public facilities within the park are closed to consumption of alcoholic beverages, and/or to the possession of a bottle, can or other receptacle containing an alcoholic beverage that is open, or has been opened, or whose seal has been broken or the contents of which have been partially removed:**

- I. The possession of alcoholic beverages is prohibited in all of the park's public buildings except under the terms of a permit issued by the Superintendent. Buildings within the park housing area are exempt from this prohibition for park residents and their guests.

### **36 CFR §2.38 – EXPLOSIVES**

**(b) Fireworks and firecrackers may be possessed and/or used in the following areas, under the conditions noted:**

- I. Using or possessing fireworks and firecrackers is prohibited.

*This is necessary due to the year-round fire danger and prevailing winds*

### **36 CFR §3.21 – SWIMMING AND BATHING**

**(a)(1) The following areas are closed to swimming and bathing:**

- I. All park waters are closed to swimming, wading and bathing.

*Aquatic and riparian ecosystems within the park are considered sensitive, unique, fragile, and readily disturbed by human influences. This restriction serves to ensure minimum adverse impact to those systems by eliminating possible sources of pollution; artificial increases in turbidity and temperature; damage to travertine flowstone formations; and other such unacceptable influences.*

### **36 CFR §4.10 – TRAVEL ON PARK ROADS AND ROUTES**

**(a) Park roads, open for travel by motor vehicle are those indicated below, and/or as indicated in the following publication or document (attached hereto):**

- I. Williams' Ranch Road is open to high clearance four wheel drive vehicles only.



Williams Ranch Road is a rugged road with large sections of unimproved areas covered by washes and sand. Low clearance and two wheel drive vehicles are not readily capable of traversing this terrain.

- II. Dog Canyon Road
- III. Frijole Ranch Road.
- IV. All other park roads are closed to the public, but open for administrative use only.

### **36 CFR §4.21 – SPEED LIMITS**

**(b) The following speed limits are established for the routes/roads indicated:**

- I. The speed limit for Highway 62/180 is 55MPH
- II. The speed limit for McKittrick Canyon Road is 35MPH
- III. The speed limit for the Pine Springs Campground 15MPH
- IV. The speed limit between Highway 62/180 and Pine Springs Campground is 25 MPH
- V. The speed limit for Dog Canyon is 15 MPH
- VI. The speed limit for Frijole Ranch road is 20 MPH
- VII. The speed limit for the Salt Basin Dunes is 25 MPH
- VIII. The speed limit for Williams Ranch Road is 15 MPH
- IX. The speed limit in the housing and maintenance area is 25 MPH
- X. The speed limit in the housing area West of the Cholla intersection is 15 MPH

### **36 CFR §4.30 – BICYCLES**

**(a) Park roads and parking areas that are closed to bicycle use are listed in section 1.5 of this document.**

### **36 CFR §4.31 – HITCHHIKING**

**Hitchhiking is permitted in the following areas under the conditions noted:**

- I. Hitchhiking or soliciting of transportation by backpackers and hikers to obtain transportation between backcountry trailheads to return to their vehicles is permitted, as long as they pursue such requests at trailheads or parking lots.

*This is permitted to provide hiking opportunities for visitors where it is not feasible to return to their vehicles by trail from remote locations in the park. It is permitted as long as it does not interfere with administration of the park, impair public services, interfere with other visitors, or present a public health or safety concern.*